

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Group Art Unit: 1742

MARGARET S. WOOLDRIDGE ET AL.

Examiner: George P. Wyszomierski

Serial No.: 10/620,585

Filed: July 16, 2003

For: GAS PHASE SYNTHESIS OF NANOPARTICLES IN A  
MULTI-ELEMENT DIFFUSION FLAME BURNER

Attorney Docket No.: UOM 0273 PUSP

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated October 4, 2005, Applicants provisionally elect the Group I claims, claims 1- 8 and 10, with traverse.

Applicants understand that product by process claims such as claim 9 are ordinarily examined without regard to the process limitations. However, the process steps must be considered when in fact different products are produced by the process. Here, the unique combustion environment of claim 1 creates nanoparticles of Sn and SnO which are impossible to obtain by other processes.

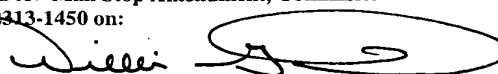
The Office states that the products of claim 9 may be prepared by another materially different process, citing the use of a reverse micelle process. However, this is a solution process and cannot be used to form either Sn(0) or SnO particles. If a solution process

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November 3, 2005  
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William G. Conger  
Name of Person Signing

  
Signature

involving micelles formed with the aid of surface active ingredients are used,  $\text{SnO}_2$  should be formed rather than  $\text{SnO}$ , if nanoparticles can be formed at all by such a process, and  $\text{Sn}(0)$  particles cannot be formed. If the Examiner is aware of such a process with respect to  $\text{Sn}(0)$  and  $\text{SnO}$  nanoparticles, the Office should cite such a process by patent number, publication number, or literature citation. Otherwise, the restriction must be withdrawn.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this application is requested. If the Examiner notes any minor errors, he is invited to telephone the undersigned so that the matter can be promptly handled by Examiner's amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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Date: November 3, 2005

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